The Southern PATRIOT

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MUST THEY DIE?

The "Martinsville Seven" will die on February 2 and 9 unless the NAACP defense lawyers' new petition for a writ of habeas corpus is granted, or Gov. John S. Battle exercises executive clemency.

The defense maintains that execution for rape is a race penalty and points out that since 1908 in Virginia 44 colored men have been executed in attack cases while only one of 809 white men convicted for like crimes received a death sentence and he later won commutation and pardon.

In support of this contention by the defense, the SCEF wrote to Gov. Battle (see Dec. SP) citing the comparative figures by race for the death penalty in all of the 13 Southern States. Our figures, based on U. S. Census Reports, revealed that over a 15-year period 92 per cent of those executed for rape were Negroes. According to the 1940 Census, Negroes made up 23.8 per cent of the population of the 13 states.

Apart from the question of bias we ask what possible good is to be served by executing these 7 youths?

If you have not done so, you may wish to write to Gov. John S. Battle, Governor's Mansion, Richmond, Va., asking him to use executive clemency in this case.

"SEPARATE BUT EQUAL" SHELTERS?

MILLARD F. CALDWELL, former Governor of Florida, has been appointed Chief of the U. S. Civil Defense program.

Mr. Caldwell, one of the architects of the Regional School Plan, is a staunch segregationist.

In case of air-atomic attack Mr. Caldwell has promised the lives and property of all Americans will be protected equally.

It would be comforting to Negroes, as they race ten blocks or more to the shelters "reserved for colored" to know that Mr. Caldwell has seen to it that their shelters, though separate, are at least "equal" to those used by other persons.

THE STATE OF THE NATION

This is a time for national emergency.

The United States, already engaged in bloody conflict in the Orient, is preparing itself against an imminent global war.

This effort, President Truman has assured us, will entail record sacrifices of money, materiel and manpower. It will mean an unparalled austerity in the lives of us all. There will be no place for frivolity, no occasion for luxury.

This is the inexorable regimen of an age of anxiety and atom bombs.

But equality before the law and freedom of choice are no luxuries. They are professedly the very virtues we are taking up arms to defend.

And brotherhood—the respect for human dignity without exceptions for race or religious creed—should remain our surest consolation in this uncertain era.

However, the President, in his State of the Union message to the 82nd Congress, not only placed guns before butter, he also placed guns before brotherhood.

Expediency directed this action, of course. For it is one of the high and bitter ironies of our lot that the duly elected representatives of the world's greatest democracy would obstruct any legislative program that meant reinforcement of the Bill of Rights.

But,

If on a federal level, the problems of racial and religious discrimination are rejected—

If mealy-mouthed public leaders and editorialists try to drown out appeals for justice by sounding the call to arms—

If the doom-seekers and the demoralized wail "Nothing matters, we'll all be atomized inside of a year"—

WE MUST NOT GIVE UP THE GOOD FIGHT!

What these rebuffs and retreats mean is that the good name of our country is left for the private citizen and the informal group to defend. It is our task, by fighting discrimination in schools, hospitals and every public place, to convince the peoples of Asia that we are not "white imperialists."

What more real support can we offer spiritually divided Europe than this example of moral vigor?

And among ourselves, to our youth we send off to unsegregated foxholes, what other banner should we give them to carry?

Let us, therefore, not be spiritually numbed by the rolling war drums nor sent cowering to a selfish bomb shelter.

In munitions **and** morality lies the strength of a nation.

The Southern Conference Educational Fund, convinced that this is the essence of our present situation has drafted a program of activities for 1951 even more energetic than previous years. We sincerely solicit your support in achieving these goals.

FOR RACE RELATIONS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1951

FROM A PRAYER FOR TODAY

By STEPHEN VINCENT BENET

—Broadcast by Franklin D. Roosevelt on the occasion of his Flag Day Address to the nation June 14, 1942.*

God of the Free, We pledge our hearts and lives today to the cause of all free mankind. Grant us victory over the tyrants who would enslave all free men of nations. Grant us faith and understanding to cherish all those who fight for freedom as if they were our brothers. Grant us brotherhood in hope and union, not only for the space of this bitter war, but for the days to come which shall and must unite all the children of earth.

Our earth is but a small star in the great universe — yet of it we can make, if we choose, a planet unvexed by war, untroubled by hunger or fear, undivided by senseless distinctions of race, color or theory. Grant us that courage and forseeing to begin his task today, that our children and our children's children may be proud of the name of Man.

The spirit of man has awakened and the soul of man has come forth. Grant us the wisdom and the vision to comprehend the greatness of man's spirit that suffers and endures so hugely for a goal beyond his own brief span. Grant us honor for our dead who died in the faith, honor for our living who work and strive for the faith, redemption and security for all captive lands and peoples. Grant us patience with the deluded and pity for the betrayed, and grant us the skill and valor that the world be cleansed of oppression and the old base doctrine that the strong must eat the weak because they are strong. Yet most of all, grant us brotherhood, not only for this day but for all our years, a brotherhood not of words, but of acts and deeds.

—FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

*** Reprinted from "Franklin Delano Roosevelt: A Memorial," Edited by Donald Porter Geddes, Copyrighted 1945, Dial Press, Inc.**

TRENDS

A Dutch Reformed minister from South Africa recently spent 3 months at an American university. He reported to Dr. Benjamin E. Mays that his visit in the United States had confirmed his belief that the policy of racial segregation in South Africa was correct.

Commented Dr. Mays: "it is too bad that our situation in America is so far from ideal and that our human relation in the South is so full of segregation, prejudice, and discrimination that a minister of 'Christ God' can visit us and say something like this: 'The way you treat Negroes in America confirms my views that we in South Africa are not so bad and that our Apartheid policy is right'. What a blight on our democracy."

Birmingham's attempt to hire Jim Crow as its zoning authority was squelched in Federal court and Negro residents in the North Smithfield area of that city gained legal tenure on their property by virtue of the Dec. 20 decision.

Unfortunately, the shocking attacks on homes that marked the dispute over the ordinance did not cease.

On Dec. 22, the new $18,000 home of Mrs. Mary Means Monk was severely damaged by a dynamite bomb hurled through a bedroom window. She barely escaped serious injury.

This is the fifth such bombing, and like the rest, the assailants remain unapprehended.

Dr. Joel A. Boykin, Negro dentist, who was bombed out a year ago, has returned to his rebuilt residence.

The horror of these acts in undeniable, but only the insurance companies are being intimidated.

The segregation of Spanish-American children in the public schools of the Tolleson school district of Arizona has been banned by a judgment handed down by Federal District Judge Dave W. Ling.

Some observers believe the ruling will, in effect, ban all segregation in Arizona schools by nullifying existing state laws segregating Negro students in elementary schools and making Negro segregation permissive in high schools.

Judge Ling's ruling was handed down in a case brought by a farmer in the Tolleson district, Profirio Gonzales, and other persons of Spanish-American origin who charged that their children were forced to attend a separate school because of their national origin in violation of the Constitution.

It is estimated that about 5,000 other Spanish-Americans are subjected to the same type of segregation in Arizona schools.

* * *

In its recent convention at New Orleans, the **American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese,** deferring to the prejudices of local hotel owners, admittedly banned Negro teachers from all of its sessions.

An official note to this effect was revealed by Professor Jose Ferrer-Canales, who informed AATSP President William H. Shoemaker, "Extend in my name to the teachers who are meeting . . . my respectful greetings and also my protest in the name of my absent colleagues, of the Negroes who are now fighting with arms for liberty and true democracy."

* * *

A $30,000 Carnegie grant will be used by the National Planning Association's Committee of the South to study the working conditions of Negroes in Southern cities and industries.

The survey's aim is to determine long-range efforts toward more effective use of manpower for national security.

The Southern PATRIOT

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THE SOUTHERN CONFERENCE EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC.

AUBREY WILLIAMS ____ President
BENJAMIN E. MAYS Vice-President
ALVA W. TAYLOR Secty.-Treasurer
JAMES A. DOMBROWSKI Dir. & Editor

Help Us Carry On the Good Fight in 1951

The story in the January issue of the **Patriot** "Weep Hippocrates" created much comment. It should. The story told how Matthew R. Avery, 24-year-old Negro college student, after a tragic automobile accident, was refused admission to two "white" hospitals in North Carolina and died one hour after he was finally received by a Jim Crow institution.

This story should make every Southerner—every American—ashamed and mad, mad enough to want to do something about it. One of the things you can do immediately is to send your contribution to the SCEF to support the efforts that a small group of Southerners is making to wipe out discrimination and the evils of segregation.

The SCEF is entirely depended upon the gifts of people like yourself who appreciate the urgency of this program. In 1950, as you will see from the following report, 1,107 persons contributed about $15,000 which was almost $5,000 short of the amount spent in that year.

If you have not made your contribution in 1951 you may wish to make use of the blank on page 4.

Your contribution will hasten the day when no hospital or other institution can be denied to anyone because of his race. Can you think of a better or happier gift?

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1950

Exhibit "A"

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

Current Assets:		
Cash in Bank — Operating Fund		$ 2,510.85
Bonds and interest		3,843.00
Total Current Assets		$ 6,353.85
Other Assets:		
Cash in Bank — Social Security Fund		172.10
Total		$ 6,525.95

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities:		
Reserve for Social Security Fund	$	172.10
Surplus		6,353.85
Total		$ 6,525.95

Exhibit "B"

STATEMENT OF SURPLUS

Surplus at December 31, 1949	$11,224.50
Deduct Net Excess of Expenditures over Revenues	4,870.65
Surplus at December 31, 1950	$ 6,353.85

Exhibit "C"

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES

EXPENDITURES

Administrative Expenses (Schedule No. 1)	$ 8,487.43
Office Expenses (Schedule No. 1)	5,624.69
Special Projects and Activities (Schedule No. 2)	6,663.25
Total Expenditures	$20,775.37

REVENUES

Contributions (from 1,107 individuals)	$15,708.27	
Sales of Literature	161 45	
Sale of Electric Fixtures	35.00	
Total Revenues		$15,904.72
Net Excess of Expenditures over Revenues		$ 4,870.65

Schedule No. 1

ADMINISTRATIVE AND OFFICE EXPENSES

for the year ended December 31, 1950

Administrative Expenses:	
Director's Salary	$ 7,500.00
Travel	939.15
Board Travel Expense	48.32
Total Administrative Expenses	$ 8,487.43
Office Expenses:	
Office Assistance	$ 2,111.30
Social Security Fund	59.06
Rent	960.00
Utilities	53.31
Supplies and Printing	1,061.02
Addressograph	25.48
Postage and Express	314.27
Telephone and Telegraph	291.95
Letter Shop Service and Clerical Help	630.82
Checks Returned	45.00
Miscellaneous	72.48
Total Office Expenses	$ 5,624.69

Schedule No. 2

SPECIAL PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Southern Patriot	$ 1,485.86
U. S. Supreme Court Brief in the Sweatt Case	172.63
Conference on Discrimination in Higher Education	1,411.56
Pamphlet, DISCRIMINATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION	1,273.01
Reprint from JOURNAL OF NEGRO EDUCATION	164.88
McGee Case	75.03
Publication, ADAM'S CHILDREN	182.59
Photographic Exhibit, CHILDREN IN AMERICA	27.58
Charleston Pilgrimage	249.89
Press Releases	65.58
Fund Raising	1,499.19
Total	$ 6,663.25